What is claimed is:

1. An image editing method that is performed in an image editing system equipped with a client, which has an edit-command unit for applying a command to edit image data, and an image server, connected with said client through a network, which has an editing unit for obtaining processed image data by editing said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit, said image editing method comprising:

a first step of accepting an edit-start command and, in response to said edit-start command, commanding said image server to transfer editing data, having at least one editing object, which contains said image data, at said edit-command unit, and of transferring said editing data to said client at said image server;

a second step of querying said image server about one editing object for obtaining said processed image data in accordance with said editing data, at said edit-command unit;

a third step of transferring editing information, which represents said one editing object corresponding to said inquiry, to said client, at said editing unit;

a fourth step of generating edit-command information which represents a command to edit said editing object, in accordance with said editing information and also transferring said edit-command information to said image server, at said edit-command unit;

a fifth step of obtaining intermediate processed image

data by applying an editing process to said editing data in accordance with said edit-command information and also transferring said intermediate processed image data to said client, at said editing unit; and

a sixth step of repeating said second through the fifth steps, until said edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

2. An image editing system comprising:

a client having an edit-command unit for applying a command to edit image data;

an image server, connected with said client through a network, which has an editing unit for obtaining processed image data by editing said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit;

said edit-command unit having first means for accepting an edit-start command and, in response to said edit-start command, commanding said image server to transfer editing data, having at least one editing object, which contains said image data; second means for querying said image server about one editing object for obtaining said processed image data, based on said editing data transferred from said image server in accordance with said command to transfer said editing data; and third means for generating edit-command information which represents a command to edit said editing object, based on said editing information transferred from said image server in

accordance with said inquiry about said editing object, and for transferring said edit-command information to said image server;

said editing unit having first means for transferring said editing data to said client in response to said command to transfer said editing data; second means for transferring editing information, which represents an editing object corresponding to said inquiry, to said client; and third means for obtaining intermediate processed image data by applying an editing process to said editing data, based on said edit-command information, and for transferring said intermediate processed image data to said client; and

means for repeatedly carrying out the steps carried out in the second and third means of said edit-command unit and the first, second, and third means of said editing unit, until said edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

3. A computer readable storage medium recording a program for causing a computer to carry out the image editing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said program has

a first procedure of accepting an edit-start command and, in response to said edit-start command, commanding said image server to transfer editing data, having at least one editing object, which contains said image data;

a second procedure of querying said image server about one editing object for obtaining said processed image data, based

on said editing data transferred from said image server in accordance with said command to transfer said editing data;

a third procedure of generating edit-command information which represents a command to edit said editing object, based on said editing information transferred from said image server in accordance with said inquiry about said editing object, and of transferring said edit-command information to said image server; and

a fourth procedure of repeating said second and third procedures, until said edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

4. A computer readable storage medium recording a program for causing a computer to carry out the image editing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said program has

a first procedure of transferring said editing data to said client in response to said command to transfer said editing data;

a second procedure of transferring editing information, which represents an editing object corresponding to said inquiry, to said client;

a third procedure of obtaining intermediate processed image data by applying an editing process to said editing data, based on said edit-command information, and of transferring said intermediate processed image data to said client; and

a fourth procedure of repeating said first, second,

and third procedures, until said edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

5. An edit-command unit in an image editing system equipped with a client, which has said edit-command unit for applying a command to edit image data, and an image server, connected with said client through a network, which has an editing unit for obtaining processed image data by editing said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit, said edit-command unit comprising:

first means for accepting an edit-start command and, in response to said edit-start command, commanding said image server to transfer editing data, having at least one editing object, which contains said image data;

second means for querying said image server about one editing object for obtaining said processed image data, based on said editing data transferred from said image server in accordance with said command to transfer said editing data;

third means for generating edit-command information which represents a command to edit said editing object, based on said editing information transferred from said image server in accordance with said inquiry about said editing object, and for transferring said edit-command information to said image server; and

fourth means for repeatedly carrying out the steps carried out in said second and third means, until said

edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

6. An editing unit in an image editing system equipped with a client, which has an edit-command unit for giving a command to edit image data, and an image server, connected with said client through a network, which has said editing unit for obtaining processed image data by editing said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit, said editing unit comprising:

first means for transferring said editing data to said client in response to said command to transfer said editing data;

second means for transferring editing information, which represents an editing object corresponding to said inquiry, to said client;

third means for obtaining intermediate processed image data by applying an editing process to said editing data, based on said edit-command information, and for transferring said intermediate processed image data to said client; and

fourth means for repeatedly carrying out the steps carried out in said first, second, and third means, until said edit-command information is transferred for an editing object desired and said processed image data is obtained.

7. An image editing method that is performed in an image editing system equipped with a client, which has an edit-command unit for giving a command to edit image data, and an image server, connected with said client through a network,

which has an editing unit for obtaining processed image data by performing an editing process on said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit and transfers predetermined image data related to said image data to said client, said image editing method comprising the steps of:

generating low-volume data smaller in data amount than said predetermined image data; and

transferring said low-volume data to said client.

8. The image editing method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said predetermined image data is any one among image data before said editing process is applied, image data subjected to an editing process up to an intermediate stage, and said processed image data.

9. The image editing method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said predetermined image data is transferred to said client, following said low-volume data.

10. The image editing method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said predetermined image data is transferred to said client, following said low-volume data.

11. The image editing method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the data amount of said low-volume data is varied according to a loaded state of said network.

12. The image editing method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the data amount of said low-volume data is varied according to a loaded state of said network.

13. The image editing method as set forth in claim

9, wherein the data amount of said low-volume data is varied according to a loaded state of said network.

14. The image editing method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount and is transferred to said client from the data smaller in data amount.

15. The image editing method as set forth in claim 8, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount and is transferred to said client from the data smaller in data amount.

16. The image editing method as set forth in claim 9, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount and is transferred to said client from the data smaller in data amount.

17. The image editing method as set forth in claim 11, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount and is transferred to said client from the data smaller in data amount.

18. The image editing method as set forth in claim 14, wherein transfer of said low-volume data is suspended in response to a command from said client.

19. The image editing method as set forth in claim 18, wherein transfer of said low-volume data is restarted in response to a command from said client.

20. An image editing system comprising:

a client having an edit-command unit for giving a

command to edit image data;

an image server, connected with said client through a network, which has an editing unit for obtaining processed image data by performing an editing process on said image data in response to the edit command from said edit-command unit and transfers predetermined image data related to said image data to said client;

wherein said image server has means for generating low-volume data smaller in data amount than said predetermined image data, and transfers said low-volume data to said client.

21. The image editing system as set forth in claim 14, wherein said predetermined image data is any one among image data before said editing process is applied, image data subjected to an editing process up to an intermediate stage, and said processed image data.

22. The image editing system as set forth in claim 20, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for transferring said predetermined image data to said client, following said low-volume data.

23. The image editing system as set forth in claim 21, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for transferring said predetermined image data to said client, following said low-volume data.

24. The image editing system as set forth in claim 20, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for varying the data amount of said low-volume data according

to a loaded state of said network.

25. The image editing system as set forth in claim 21, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for varying the data amount of said low-volume data according to a loaded state of said network.

26. The image editing system as set forth in claim 22, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for varying the data amount of said low-volume data according to a loaded state of said network.

27. The image editing system as set forth in claim 20, wherein said means for generating low-volume data is means for generating said low-volume data so that it is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and transfers said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data having a smaller data amount.

28. The image editing system as set forth in claim 21, wherein said means for generating low-volume data is means for generating said low-volume data so that it is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and transfers said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data having a smaller data amount.

29. The image editing system as set forth in claim 22, wherein said means for generating low-volume data is means for generating said low-volume data so that it is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and transfers said low-volume data to said client in sequence from

the data having a smaller data amount.

30. The image editing system as set forth in claim 24, wherein said means for generating low-volume data is means for generating said low-volume data so that it is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and transfers said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data smaller in data amount.

31. The image editing system as set forth in claim 27, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for suspending transfer of said low-volume data in response to a command from said client.

32. The image editing system as set forth in claim 31, wherein said image server is further equipped with means for restarting transfer of said low-volume data in response to a command from said client.

33. A computer readable storage medium recording a program for causing a computer to carry out the image editing method as set forth in claim 7, wherein said program has

a procedure of generating low-volume data smaller in data amount than said predetermined image data; and

a procedure of transfers said low-volume data to said client.

34. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 33, wherein said predetermined image data is any one among image data before said editing process is applied, image data subjected to an editing process up to an intermediate stage,

and said processed image data.

35. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 33, wherein said program further has a procedure of transferring said predetermined image data to said client, following said low-volume data.

36. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 34, wherein said program further has a procedure of transferring said predetermined image data to said client, following said low-volume data.

37. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 33, wherein said program further has a procedure of varying the data amount of said low-volume data according to a loaded state of said network.

38. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 34, wherein said program further has a procedure of varying the data amount of said low-volume data according to a loaded state of said network.

39. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 35, wherein said program further has a procedure of varying the data amount of said low-volume data according to a loaded state of said network.

40. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 33, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and said procedure of transferring low-volume data is a procedure of transferring said low-volume data to said client in sequence

from the data having a smaller data amount.

41. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 34, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and said procedure of transferring low-volume data is a procedure of transferring said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data smaller in data amount.

42. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 35, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and said procedure of transferring low-volume data is a procedure of transferring said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data smaller in data amount.

43. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 37, wherein said low-volume data is composed of a plurality of data reduced in stages in data amount, and said procedure of transferring low-volume data is a procedure of transferring said low-volume data to said client in sequence from the data having a smaller data amount.

44. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 40, wherein said program further has a procedure of suspending transfer of said low-volume data in response to a command from said client.

45. The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 44, wherein said program further has a procedure of restarting transfer of said low-volume data in response to a

command from said client.

46. An image editing system comprising:

a client having an image-editing command unit for applying a command to edit image data representing a user's image; and

a server, connected with said client through a network, which has means for archiving said image data and low-resolution image data scaled down from said image data and edits said image data;

editing information required for editing said image data which contains said low-resolution image data being transferred from said server to said client;

an operation of editing said low-resolution image data being performed at said client;

the result of editing being transferred to said server as edit-command information;

processed image data being obtained by editing said image data according to said edit-command information at said server;

wherein, when giving a command to insert a character image, which represents characters, into said user's image, said image-editing command unit generates character image data representing a character image of the approximately the same resolution as said user's image and transfers said character image data and said edit-command information to said server; and

said image editing unit obtains said processed image data by inserting said character image into said user's image, based on said edit-command information and said character image data.

47. An image-editing command unit of an image editing system, equipped with a client having said image-editing command unit for applying a command to edit image data representing a user's image and a server which is connected with said client through a network and has means for archiving said image data and low-resolution image data scaled down from said image data and edits said image data, in which editing information required for editing said image data which contains said low-resolution image data is transferred from said server to said client, an operation of editing said low-resolution image data is performed at said client, the result of editing is transferred to said server as edit-command information, and processed image data is obtained by editing said image data according to said edit-command information at said server,

the image-editing command unit comprising means which, when giving a command to insert a character image, which represents characters, into said user's image, generates character image data representing a character image of the approximately the same resolution as said user's image and transfers said character image data and said edit-command information to said server.

48. An image editing unit for editing image data in

accordance with the edit-command information obtained in the image-editing command unit as set forth in claim 47, said image editing unit comprising means for obtaining processed image data by inserting a character image into a user's image, based on said edit-command information and character image data.

49. An image-editing command method in an image editing system, equipped with a client having an image-editing command unit for applying a command to edit image data representing a user's image and a server which is connected with said client through a network and has means for archiving said image data and low-resolution image data scaled down from said image data and edits said image data, in which editing information required for editing said image data which contains said low-resolution image data is transferred from said server to said client, an operation of editing said low-resolution image data is performed at said client, the result of editing is transferred to said server as edit-command information, and processed image data is obtained by editing said image data according to said edit-command information at said server;

the image-editing command method comprising the steps of, when giving a command to insert a character image, which represents characters, into said user's image, generating character image data representing a character image of the approximately the same resolution as said user's image, and transferring said character image data and said edit-command information to said server.

50. An image editing method of editing image data in accordance with the edit-command information obtained in the image-editing command method as set forth in claim 49, said image editing method comprising the step of obtaining processed image data by inserting a character image into a user's image in accordance with said edit-command information and character image data.

51. In a computer readable storage medium, recording a program for causing a computer to carry out an image-editing command method, in an image editing system, equipped with a client having an image-editing command unit for applying a command to edit image data representing a user's image and a server which is connected with said client through a network and has means for archiving said image data and low-resolution image data scaled down from said image data and edits said image data, in which editing information required for editing said image data which contains said low-resolution image data is transferred from said server to said client, an operation of editing said low-resolution image data is performed at said client, the result of editing is transferred to said server as edit-command information, and processed image data is obtained by editing said image data according to said edit-command information at said server,

the computer readable storage medium wherein said program has the procedures of, when giving a command to insert a character image, which represents characters, into said user's

image, generating character image data representing a character image of the approximately the same resolution as said user's image, and transferring said character image data and said edit-command information to said server.

52. A computer readable storage medium recording a program for causing a computer to carry out a method of editing image data in accordance with the edit-command information obtained in the image-editing command method as set forth in claim 49, wherein said program has a procedure of obtaining processed image data by inserting a character image into a user's image in accordance with said edit-command information and character image data.